

REMARKS

Claims 13-15 and 18 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 5,932,900 ("Lin").

Claims 16, 17 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin.

Claims 19, 20, and 27 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The allowable subject matter of claim 27 has been incorporated into independent claim 13, rendering claim 13 allowable. Claim 27 has been cancelled as now being redundant. All remaining pending claims depend from claim 13 and should therefore be allowable as well.

Claims 15-17 and 19-20 have been amended to correct minor grammatical errors that could be construed to create antecedent problems by inadvertently interchanging 'a' or 'an' with 'the' or 'said'. These changes do not alter the scope or substance of the claims.

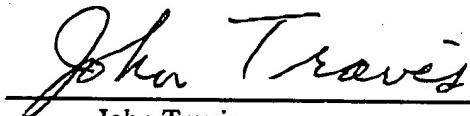
Claims 15 and 19 have also been amended to remove stray punctuation marks that were inadvertently added in a previous amendment. These changes do not alter the scope or substance of the claims.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and indication of allowance by the Examiner is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, he or she is requested to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number shown below as soon as possible. If any fee insufficiency or overpayment is found, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10-3-03



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